

#4  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

**ZELEK, KING, VORA, SODERBORG, BROCKERS**

Serial NO.: TO BE ASSIGNED

Filed: HEREWITH

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PRODUCT OPTIMIZATION

Attorney Docket No.: FMC 1361 PUSP / 201-0240

1c971 U.S. PTO  
10/043696  
01/11/02

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)**

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Form PTO/SB08A are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1).

While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the references are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

A copy of each reference listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A is included herewith. Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**ZELEK ET AL**

Date: October 3, 2001

By: John S. LeRoy

JOHN S. LeROY

Reg. No. 48,158

Attorney/Agent for Applicants

**BROOKS & KUSHMAN P.C.**  
1000 Town Center, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Southfield, MI 48075  
Phone: 248-358-4400  
Fax: 248-358-3351

HC971 U.S. PTO  
10/043696  
01/11/02

[illegible][illegible]

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>a</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Substitute for Form 1449B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	TO BE ASSIGNED	
			Filing Date	HEREWITH	
			First Named Inventor	ZELEK ET AL	
			Group Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	FMC 1361 PUSP / 201-0240

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		Web page: "About Six Sigma Qualtec", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 1 p.	
		Web page: "Six Sigma Qualtec's History", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 1 p.	
		Web page: "Navistar's Chatham Assembly Plant Makes 'Workplace Organization' a Priority for Staff Groups", Six Sigma Qualtec, 3 pp.	
		Web page: "Navistar's Truck Group Drives Change, Reaps Financial Reward", Six Sigma Qualtec, 4 pp.	
		Web page: "GE Capital Mortgage Canada Provides Exceptional Speed and Service Through the Use of Six Sigma Methods and Tools", Six Sigma Qualtec, 4 pp.	
		Web page: Six Sigma Qualtec home page, 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 1 p.	
		Web page: "Six Sigma Difference", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 1 p.	
		Web page: "What is Six Sigma?", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 1 p.	
		Web page: "Six Sigma Success", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 2 pp.	
		Web page: "Six Sigma Training & Application", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 2 pp.	
		Web page: "Leadership Symposium", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 1 p.	
		Web page: "Lean Manufacturing", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 2 pp.	
		Web page: "Sig Sigma Transactional", 1999 Six Sigma Qualtec, 2 pp.	

Examiner Signature		Date Consider d	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.  
<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.